What heart, head, sword, force, means, but is lord
Timon's ?
Great Timon, noble, worthy, royal Timon !
Ah! when the means are gone, that buy this praise, The breath is gone whereof this praise is made: Feast-won, fast-lost; one cloud of winter showers, These flies are couch'd.

TIM. Come, sermon me no further:
No villainous bounty yet hath pass'd my heart; Unwisely, not ignobly, have I given[9]. Why dost thou weep ? Canst thou the conscience
lack,
To think I shall lack friends ? Secure thy heart; If I would broach the vessels of my love, And try the argument[1] of hearts by borrowing, Men, and men's fortunes, could I frankly use, As I can bid thee speak[2].

9 No villainous bounty yet hath pass'd my heart;
Unwisely, not ignobly, have I given.] Every reader must rejoice in this circumstance of comfort which presents itself to Timon, who, although beggar'd through want of prudence, consoles himself with reflection that his ruin was not brought on by the pursuit of guilty pleasures. STEEVSNS.

[1] And try the ARGUMENT—] The licentiousness of our author forces us often upon far-fetched expositions. *Arguments* may mean *contents,* as the *arguments* of a book ; *OY evidences* and *proofs.*
JOHNSON.

The matter contained in a poem or play was in our author's time commonly thus denominated. Tlie contents of his Rape of Lu-crece, which he certainly published himself, he calls *The Argument.* Hence undoubtedly his "use of the word. If I would, says Timon, by borrowing, try of what men's hearts are *composed,* what they *have in them,* &c. The old copy reads—*argument $* not, as Dr. Johnson supposed—arguments. MALONE.

So, in Hamlet, vol. vii. p, $$0: " Have you heard the *argu* ment?* Is there no offence in it? " Many more instances to the •same purpose might be subjoined. STEEVENS.

[a] As I CAN bid thee speak.] Thus the old copy ; but it being clear from* the overloaded measure that these words are a playhouse interpolation, I would not hesitate to omit them- They are understood, though not expressed. STEEVENS.